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THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

USIB-D-22.1/46  
5 November 1975

Office of the Director

MEMORANDUM FOR: The United States Intelligence Board

SUBJECT : FY 1976 Key Intelligence Question Strategy Reports

REFERENCE : USIB-D-22.1/43, dated 9 October 1975

1. The FY 1976 KIQs have now been noted by the USIB and have been formally issued. Per paragraph 3(b) of the Introduction, the next step in the KIQ process is for the National Intelligence Officers or their designees, working with all appropriate elements of the Intelligence Community, to conduct a review of the KIQs leading to a brief KIQ Strategy Report. These reports will provide an assessment of the Community's collection and production strategy for each KIQ, identify organizational commitments to work on the KIQ, and contain recommendations by the NIO for improvement in the strategy where appropriate.

2. The KIQ Strategy Reports have to be completed as expeditiously as possible if they are to play a meaningful role in program managers' decisions regarding resource allocation in response to the KIQs. As became evident during the preparation of last year's KIQ Strategy Reports, a major value of this process was the forthright discussions held during the interagency meetings which led to a better understanding by all concerned of the strengths and weaknesses of the Community in both collection and production. The experience of the past year and the active participation of your representatives should ensure that this year's Strategy Reports are an improvement over last year's initial effort.

3. The KIQ process continues to be an evolutionary one, but one which appears to be a valuable tool for focussing the efforts of the Intelligence Community against those questions of highest priority to the senior policy levels of the US Government. The concept, of course, is susceptible to considerable refinement and improvement. New or modified

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procedures, as they are developed, will be discussed at USIB and additional guidance forwarded during the course of the year. Along this line, and in response to your representatives' problems last year with the variety of approaches used in the Strategy Reports, the NIOs have been asked to utilize a format which will provide more uniformity.

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W. E. Colby

cc: IRAC Members